

## Our Mission

In times of trouble, there is refuge!

Refuge House is a unique and innovative non-profit foster care and adoption agency that strongly believes in its motto, "A home is in the Heart of EVERY child." The agency was founded on traditional Christian values and works hard to keep things "family focused". The staff is a team of excellence, comprised of those committed not just to their roles in the agency, but to each of the children and families served. Unlike government run agencies, we provide round the clock access every day of the year. We know needs arise 24/7, and we offer 24/7 access and hands-on support to those we serve. Faith and Prayer are a large part of our day to day operation because we understand the simple fact that without God nothing is possible. Currently, the agency serves newborns through 21 years of age. If you are looking for an agency that will not only walk with you, but support you through the ins and outs of foster care and adoption, we urge you to consider making Refuge House your home.

**Mission:** To serve today's forgotten youth and families by providing stable growth environments and guiding them on a path to a successful tomorrow.

**Vision:** To see those we served increase the value of the investment in their lives by passing it on to someone else.

**Motto:** A home is in the heart of Every child.

**History:** Refuge House was incorporated as a Not-for-Profit corporation in the State of Texas in 2002 and received 501(c)3 tax-exempt, tax-deductible status in 2004. In that same year, Refuge House secured licensing as a Child Placing Agency and a contract with the State of Texas to place children displaced from their homes as a result of abuse or neglect. In September of 2004, Refuge House placed its first 6 children in care and has grown that number to more than 300 children each year thereafter. Refuge House has always been a dream in the heart of one of its founder Michele L. Gorman. After years of working in the field and serving as a foster and adoptive parent herself Michele has a true understanding of the pain and suffering each child may be going through as well as the successes and struggles of the families helping these children. Michele brings a unique approach to foster care and adoption. She is backed by a strong board of directors with the same Christian beliefs and goals geared toward enhancing lives. Always thinking outside the box and looking for innovative ways of reaching our children, Refuge House has become a model that is being replicated across the US. In designing Refuge House Michele understood one simple fact: Without good quality families, no child can be reached or healed. The families that have come to Refuge House over the years have been proven blessings, and a large part of the organization's success. These families are truly Angels among us. They come into the lives of these children in their darkest hours, guiding and teaching each one how to survive and surpass their pain. Providing each child with a sense of love and security while meeting each ones physical and emotional needs, Refuge House families strive for the upward call. Without our families, where would our children be?